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PATENT

Atty. Docket No. 2658-0246P

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ke

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Conf.: 9754

Appl. No.:

09/725,572

Group:

2812

Filed:

November 30, 2000

Examiner: ROMAN, A.

For:

METHOD OF PREVENTING GENERATION OF PARTICLES IN

CHAMBER

## COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

## MS IF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DEC 1 1 2003

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37) mailed October 22, 2003 included an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. The Examiner states "the prior art of record either singularly or in combination failed to anticipate or render obvious the limitations of increasing the pressure within the chamber to greater than or equal to atmospheric pressure by injecting a nitrogen gas into the chamber and drawing out the surface treatment gas from the chamber while injecting the nitrogen gas, the surface treatment gas converting the substrate surface into an organic material as required by claim 1."

Applicant notes that the present application also includes independent claims 13 and 17. Claims 13 and 17 do not recite a "nitrogen gas." Rather, claims 13 and 17 recite a "moisture displacing gas."

Further, independent claim 17 does not recite that the surface treatment gas converts the substrate surface into an organic material.

## CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott L. Lowe (Registration No. 41,458) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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